

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Referring to the published version of the Application (U.S. 2005/0139362), please replace paragraphs ⁰⁰²⁰[0022], ⁰⁰²³[0025], ⁰⁰²⁸[0030], ⁰⁰³³[0035], and ⁰⁰³⁵[0037] with the following amended paragraphs:

⁰⁰²⁰
[0022] FIGS. 1A-1C are (1C partial) sectional views of a wellbore tool 1 in its three actuatable positions: closed, equalization, and open, respectively. The wellbore tool 1 first comprises an upper housing 10. The upper housing 10 is a tubular member with a flow bore therethrough. At a top end, the upper housing 10 is threaded for connection with a production string, workstring, or members thereof (not shown). At a bottom end, the upper housing 10 is threadedly connected to a lower housing 5. The lower housing contains a lip ⁰⁰²⁰[[110]] (see FIG. 3) at a top end that deforms against a tapered inside surface of the upper housing 10 when the two housings are connected, thereby forming a metal-to-metal seal. The lower housing 5 is a tubular member with a flow bore therethrough. At a bottom end, the lower housing 5 is threaded for connection with a production string, workstring, or members thereof (not shown). Concentrically disposed within the upper housing 10 and the lower housing 5 is a sleeve 15. The sleeve 15 is a tubular member with a flow bore therethrough. A top end of the sleeve 15 is configured to form a shifting neck ⁰⁰²⁰[[120]] for receiving a shifting tool (not shown). The shifting tool may be run in on a wireline, coiled tubing, or other means. Once the shifting tool has engaged with the shifting neck ⁰⁰²⁰[[120]], an actuation force may be exerted on the sleeve 15. Alternatively, a lower end of the sleeve 15 proximate a latch 20 (see below) is also configured to form a shifting neck. The tool 1 may also be used upside down.

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[0025] Referring now to FIG. ⁰⁰²³[[3]] 2, two flow ports 70 are disposed through a wall of the ~~lower~~ upper housing 10. A seal recess 115 is disposed along an inner side of the ~~lower~~ upper housing 10. At a bottom end, the seal recess 115 is bounded by an upper end 110 of the lower housing 5. At a top end, the seal recess 115 is bounded by a shoulder 100 of the upper housing 10. Disposed within the seal space 115 is a lower

primary seal retainer 90. The retainer 90 is restrained from sliding up the seal space by a shoulder that mates with a corresponding shoulder of the ~~lower~~ upper housing 10. The retainer 90 is restrained from sliding downward by the ~~lower~~ upper end 110 of the ~~upper~~ lower housing 5. Disposed in the seal space 115 proximately below the flow port 70 is an upper primary seal retainer 60. The retainer 60 has a groove for seating a retainer screw 65 which is threadedly engaged to a corresponding hole formed through the upper housing 10. Disposed in the seal space 115 between the two retainers 90, 60 is a primary seal assembly 55. Disposed in the seal space 115 proximately above the flow port 70 is a secondary seal retainer 75. Like the upper primary seal retainer 60, the retainer 75 has a groove for seating a retainer screw 80 which is threadedly engaged to a corresponding hole formed through the upper housing 10. Disposed in the seal space 115 between the retainer 75 and the shoulder 100 is a secondary seal assembly 85. Alternatively, the retainer screws 65, 80 and their corresponding holes through the upper housing 10 may be replaced by retainer rings (not shown). Grooves (not shown) would be formed in an inner wall of upper housing 10 instead of the holes. The retainer rings would then seat in the grooves formed in retainers 60, 75 and the grooves formed in the inner wall of the upper housing 10. Alternatively, further, flow ports 70 could be extended axially along the tool, by adding slots, to correspond to the retainers 60, 75 and the retainer rings could be ring portions with J-hooks at each of their ends to secure the retainer rings to the upper housing 10.

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Operation of the tool 1 is as follows. Referring to FIG. [[5]] 4, the tool 1 of the present invention is assembled within a workstring or production string. The workstring or production string may comprise one or two packers and other well tools. The workstring or production string is lowered into a cased wellbore containing pressurized fluid. The tool 1 is usually in a closed position (see FIG. 1A) when run in to the wellbore, however, it can also be run in an open position (see FIG. 1C). When run-in closed, the outside of the tool 1 will be exposed to the wellbore pressure P_h . Typically, the inside of the tool will be at a lower pressure P_l . Roughly, a lower end of the seal assembly 55 will be at P_l , while an upper end will be at P_h . Referring to FIG. 1A, once the tool 1 is lowered within a pressurized wellbore, pressurized fluid will enter the flow

ports 70 flow around/through the retainers 65 and 80. The fluid will be prevented from entering the low pressure bore within the sleeve 15 by the primary 55 and secondary 85 seal assemblies. Fluid will be prevented from entering through the coupling between the upper 10 and lower 5 housings by the seal formed by the lip [[110]] of the lower housing 5 and the tapered section of the upper housing 10.

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Referring to FIG. [[5]] 4, there is schematically shown the apparatus of the present invention in a well 225 with a wellhead 200 positioned at the top and a blowout preventor 205 positioned thereon.

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As shown in FIG. [[5]] 4, the casing 210 extends from the top of the well to the bottom thereof with a cylindrical fluid flow conduit 215 being cylindrically disposed within the casing 210 and carrying at its lowermost end a well packer 220. The well tool 1 is shown being carried on the cylindrical fluid flow conduit 215 above the well packer 220.